

POLICY MANUAL

State Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services

POLICY 4023(CSB)86-24 Residential Services

Authority	Board Minutes Dated <u>October 22, 1986</u> Effective Date <u>November 19, 1986</u> Approved by Board Chairman <u>s/James C. Windsor</u>
References	§§ 36-39 and 37.1-194, <i>Code of Virginia</i> (1950), as amended House Joint Resolution 287, Housing Action Plan, 1987 and updates Report of the Committee on Housing for the Disabled, July 1985 DMHMRSAS Comprehensive State Plan
Background	It is the policy of the State Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board that community services boards provide a core of services to Virginia's mentally ill, mentally retarded, and substance abusing citizens, in accordance with § 37.1-194 of the Code of Virginia, within available funds. Core services include emergency services, inpatient, outpatient, case management, day support, residential, prevention and early intervention.
Purpose	To establish the Board's policy with regard to residential services for the mentally ill, mentally retarded, and substance abusing citizens of the Commonwealth.
Mission Statement on Housing and Supports	Mission Statement on Housing and Supports <ul style="list-style-type: none">● All individuals, including those with mental disabilities and those recovering from alcohol and other drug addictions, should live in stable, decent affordable housing of their own choice.● People should choose their housing from that available to the general public throughout the community.

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Mission Statement (Continued)

- To ensure choice, the mental health, mental retardation, and substance abuse system has the responsibility to assure availability and access to existing housing, and to stimulate the preservation and development of housing.
- The system should also assure that the necessary supports will be available to secure adequate housing, meaningful work, education, opportunities for personal relationships and community participation regardless of where people choose to live.

Policy for CSBs

It is the policy of the State Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board that community services boards provide a choice of residential services from among those described in the Core Services Taxonomy to consumers, with respect to their preference, in their home communities within resources available. This Board has determined that providing adequate residential services should be of the highest priority. CSBs are expected to explore every available resource to provide residential services. Community services boards shall develop joint annual written agreements with housing agencies as prescribed in § 37.1-197(12) of the Code of Virginia, and each board should survey its consumers, local advocates, and service providers to ensure that the housing developed is consistent with local needs and consumer preferences.

Policy for the Department, Facilities and CSBs

Further, it is the policy of the Board that the Department shall provide technical assistance to community services boards, and the boards and facilities shall work together, to maximize federal, state, and local resources for the development of affordable housing and appropriate supports. Residential services should be made available in residential settings integrated throughout the community and without restrictions based on handicap in accordance with the Virginia Fair Housing Law (Virginia Code § 36-96.1 et seq.).

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**Policy for
Department,
Facilities and
CSBs
(Continued)**

Finally, it is the policy of the Board that needed emergency, transitional, and permanent housing should be made available for consumers, as appropriate. Individualized support and supervision services should be provided according to the consumer's needs. These services should emphasize self-sufficiency skills to the extent that consumers can meet their own needs. Case management should assure linkage to other needed support services, as necessary. The Department is charged with the responsibility for implementation of this policy in conjunction with other state agencies having a role in the provision of housing and supports for the mentally disabled and with community services boards.

**Monitoring of
This Policy**

The Commissioner shall assign a staff coordinator who will develop a plan for implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy.
